

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1538
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SC AND ST
A. KRISHNASWAMY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forum of SC/ST Parliamentarians' in the representations submitted to the Prime Minister on 17.12.1996, 01.09.1997 & 23.07.1998 have demanded allocation of funds for the development of SCs/STs proportion to the population of this community from Ninth Five Year Plan onwards;

(b) if so, the details of the funds demanded, allocated and released by the Union Government for the procurement and distribution of land for SCs and STs families in the First (1997-98) Second (1998-99) and Third Annual Plans (1999-2000) of the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the reasons for not meeting the demands?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a): Yes, Sir. In the Memoranda submitted by the Forum to the Prime Minister on 17.12.1996, 1.9.97 and 23.7.98, demand was made for the allocation of funds for the development of SCs and STs in proportion to their population.

(b)&(c): Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is primarily responsible for increasing production and productivity of agricultural output through implementation of various agriculture development schemes. The schemes are production oriented and area specific in nature which therefore benefit farmers of all categories including farmers of SC/ST communities. In view of the above, there is little scope to demand funds in proportion to the population of a certain community or region, etc. However, wherever possible, Special Component Plan (SCP) for SCs and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for STs are carved out of the Annual Plans.